

STATE SENATOR • JIM BARCIA • 31ST DISTRICT

Barcia Press Release

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SEN. BARCIA ANNOUNCES \$9 MILLION IN LOCAL AND COUNTY ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS *Jobs Today* Transportation Investment to fund up to 25 percent

LANSING—The first round of road projects in Governor Jennifer M. Granholm's *Jobs Today* transportation investment program became a reality today as matching grants to local communities from the Michigan Department of Transportation were announced this morning. State Senator Jim Barcia (D-Bay City) announced that nine projects in the Bay and Thumb area will receive a \$1.672 million in a *Jobs Today* match toward the projects.

"This is a much needed boost for our local economy," Sen. Jim Barcia said. "By improving our transportation infrastructure we will create jobs and make an important investment in our long term economic growth."

The projects include: Bay City , North Henry Street from Vermont to Wilder, resurfacing the roadway, along with sidewalk and water main replacement and miscellaneous storm sewer and roadway modification; and Wenona Avenue, from Ivy St. North to Ionia, complete reconstruction including curbs, gutters and storm sewers.

Sanilac County will receive funding for three projects, including bridge and approaches over Black Creek Drain; eight miles of asphalt surfacing from M-53 to M-19; and six miles of asphalt surfacing from M-19 to Polk Road. Tuscola County will receive funding for four miles of road reconstruction and drainage improvements from Shabbona Road to Akron/Kelly.

Huron County will be funded for four miles of asphalt resurfacing with aggregate shoulders and pavement markings from Huron Line Road to Sebewaing Road and from Rapson Road to Kinde Road. Arenac County will see improvements from Briggs Road to M-65 with six miles of resurfacing, aggregate shoulders, guard rails, pavement markings and culvert replacements.

In May, the House and Senate approved a measure to designate \$80 million in the state's supplemental transportation budget to help county road commissions and local governments meet federal match funding requirements for federal transportation grants. The money will make the state eligible to receive \$320 million in federal funds earmarked for Michigan.

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